

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6797

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

USMISSION USBERLIN

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMCONSUL KRAKOW

/AMCONSUL POZNAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L WARSAW 5405

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PL, GW

SUBJECT: FRG EMBASSY PRESSES GOP ON PUBLICATION OF AGREEMENT

REF: WARSAW 5354

1. FRG EMBASSY OFFICERS IN SEPARATE CONVERSATIONS OVER THE WEEKEND INFORMED US IN STRICT CONFIDENCE THAT THEIR AMBASSADOR HAD CALLED ON ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER TREPCZYNSKI ON AUGUST 15 TO DISCUSS MODALITIES OF PUBLISHING TERMS OF THE RECENT GIEREK-SCHMIDT AGREEMENT. THEY SAID THAT BONN, FEELING CONSIDERABLE OPPOSITION PRESSURE, IS ANXIOUS TO PUBLISH AND DISCUSS THE FULL TERMS OF THE AGREEMENT AND THAT THE FRG AMBASSADOR INDICATED TO TREPCZYNSKI THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD LIKE TO PROCEED REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THE GOP FOLLOWS SUIT. TREPCZYNSKI REPORTEDLY AGREED TO CONSIDER THE MATTER, WITHOUT MAKING ANY COMMITMENT.

2. THE AGREEMENTS CREDIT AND PENSION ELEMENTS WERE
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REVEALED IN GREATER DETAIL THAN BEFORE IN A LONG

ARTICLE BY RYSZARD WOJNA THAT APPEARED IN TRYBUNA LUDU ON AUGUST 16. WOJNA QUALIFIED THE PENSION TERMS BY INDICATING THAT THE 1.3 BILLION DM SUM REPRESENTS A "RETURN" BY THE FRG OF THE SUM PAID BY THE GOP SINCE 1945 IN THE FORM OF PENSIONS AND ANNUITIES STEMMING FROM LIABILITIES OF THE THIRD REICH. WOJNA WENT ON TO DISCUSS FAMILY REUNIFICATION ONLY IN GENERAL TERMS, WRITING THAT THE GOP WILL "ONCE AGAIN UNDERTAKE UNIFICATION ACTIONS CONFIRMING ITS GOOD WILL AND HUMANITARIAN APPROACH TO THAT PROBLEM". HE FURTHER MUDDLED THAT ISSUE BY POINTING TO THE ALLEGEDLY GROWING DESIRE TO RETURN TO POLAND AMONG MANY WHO HAVE PREVIOUSLY EMIGRATED TO THE FRG.

3. WHILE GRANTING THAT THE WOJNA ARTICLE REPRESENTS A CONSIDERABLE ADVANCE OVER RAKOWSKI'S POSITION IN THE PREVIOUS DAY'S POLITYKA (REFTEL), THE FRG EMBASSY OFFICERS BELIEVED IT WAS STILL INADEQUATE. THEY DECLINED TO SPECULATE ABOUT WHETHER THE WOJNA PIECE REPRESENTS A GOP RESPONSE TO THEIR EMBASSY'S "INTERVENTION".

4. COMMENT: THE FRG EMBASSY'S ACTION WOULD PRESUMABLY TEND TO NEUTRALIZE ANY GOP CONCERN ABOUT FRG PUBLIC REACTION TO POLISH DISCUSSION OF THE AGREEMENT. WOJNA'S OBVIOUS SKIRTING OF THE FAMILY REUNIFICATION ISSUE SUGGESTS THAT THIS QUESTION IS, INDEED, A SENSITIVE ONE FOR THE GOP. MOREOVER, HIS SUGGESTION THAT THE AGREED FIGURE FOR PENSION PAYMENT REPRESENTS REPAYMENT OF MONEY ALREADY DISBURSED BY THE GOP SEEMS DESIGNED TO DAMPEN THE EXPECTATIONS OF POTENTIAL POLISH RECIPIENTS.
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